Janet Napolitano
Governor

Office of the Governor

* HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS * "SHARING YOUR HEART, OPENING YOUR HOME, OFFERING YOUR HELP AND CHANGING A LIFETIME"

WHEREAS, all children deserve and benefit from the love of a family and it is our responsibility to ensure the safety, permanency, and well being of the 9,000 children in foster care statewide; and

WHEREAS, the 3,632 licensed family foster homes in Arizona promote the healing process by offering a stable and secure environment until the child can either return home or establish a lifelong relationship with a caring adult such as through adoption; and

WHEREAS, individuals and families across Arizona are encouraged to consider becoming a foster parent and provide guidance and support so children in foster care can realize their full human potential; and

WHEREAS, there are a variety of meaningful ways for individuals, organizations and communities to get involved and make a lasting difference in the lives of young people in foster care; and

WHEREAS, everyday, people in Arizona are making a difference in the lives of children. Foster parents, relative caregivers, mentors, advocates, social workers, Department of Economic Security employees and community supporters are the unsung heroes of our society;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Janet Napolitano, Governor of Arizona, do hereby proclaim December 2006 as a month to celebrate

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and urge all Arizonans to come forward for a child in any way they can and make a lasting difference in the life of a child.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this twenty-seventh day of November in the year Two Thousand and Six and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Thirty-first

SECRETARY OF STATE